



Dear Bastrop County Residents:

There has been a significant increase in the number of COVID-19 cases in the State of Texas. Yesterday, Texas reported over 6,000 new cases. So why is this happening?

One could argue that because we do not have a vaccine to prevent the virus, or an effective treatment for it, then we are all going to get COVID-19. That could be true if we all accepted defeat and did nothing to stop the spread of this viral disease, but we are Americans! More importantly, we are from Bastrop County, and we are not the type to give up the fight! Bastrop County has a proud history of rising from the ashes! This is not the time for cowering. Now is the time to defend our loved ones and ourselves.

Together we have learned to practice social distancing measures by keeping at least six feet away from each other. We have discovered new ways to carry out certain activities such as using 'curbside' pick-up for groceries, 'take out' from restaurants, "elbow bumps", and bigger smiles under the masks we are wearing to cover our noses and mouths.

For months, these practices have helped to slow the spread of COVID-19 until now. We need to avoid situations that might increase the spread of this virus, in addition to the use masks and face coverings that can slow the spread of the virus.

Please stand with your family and neighbors and join us in protecting each other and ourselves by wearing a mask and social distancing. The mask that you wear may protect not only you, but also the person next to you, who may have a greater risk of dying.

Join us as we continue to work to save lives,

A blue ink signature of Desmar Walkes MD, consisting of a stylized cursive name followed by "MD".

Desmar Walkes MD
Bastrop County Local Health Authority

A blue ink signature of Pompeyo Chavez MD, consisting of a stylized cursive name followed by "MD".

Pompeyo Chavez MD
President Bastrop Lee County Medical Society